

## DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ACACIA.

BY J. H. MAIDEN.

(Plate i.)

## ACACIA DOROTHEA, sp. nov.

An erect shrub of several feet, with angular branches, more or less covered all over with appressed white hairs, occasionally rubbed off on the old leaves, very dense on the young shoots. Phyllodia linear-lanceolate, falcate, rather more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and 4 to 5 lines broad, rarely attaining  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch in breadth, obscurely veined, except the prominent mid-vein, with prominently thickened margins, and frequently with a small oblique or recurved point, the single large marginal gland about halfway between the point and the base. Flower-heads oblong, about 6 to 8 on short pedicels, in stout axillary or terminal racemes much shorter than the leaves. Flowers about 20 in the heads. Calyx small, shortly 5-lobed, very hairy. Petals 5, glabrous or nearly so, more than twice as long as the calyx, united at the base. Ovarium densely hairy. Pods flat, stipitate, generally 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch broad, somewhat curved, with thickened margins, much constricted between the seeds, densely covered with soft hairs, especially in the unripe state. Seeds longitudinally arranged, small, ovate, only 2 or 3 or solitary in the few ripe pods seen; funicle folded under the seed, the last fold much thickened.

Mount Wilson (J. H. Maiden, April, 1896, in bud; October, 1899, in flower); Mount Victoria (J. H. Maiden, August and September, 1898, in bud and in flower); near Hartley (J. H. Maiden, February, 1899, in bud); Clarence Siding (J. H. Maiden, September, 1899, in flower, and in April, 1900; J. L. Boorman, December, 1900, with unripe pods; January, 1901, with ripe seeds).

The species is named in honour of my daughter, *Acacia Dorothy Maiden* (in fulfilment of a long-standing promise)

The affinity of this species lies with *A. rubida*, A. Cunn., *A. obtusata*, Sieb., and *A. amoena*, Wendl.; but it is distinguished from them all by the *oblong flower-head* attaining fully  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in length, and almost connecting it with the section *Julifloræ*. Its hairy pods distinguish it also from the allied species.

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#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE.

Fig. 1.—Flowering twig.

Fig. 2.—Showing the oblong flower-heads, best seen in bud.

Fig. 3.—Pentamerous flower, showing the hairy calyx.

Fig. 4.—Pod, showing the constriction between the seed.

Fig. 5.—Seed, with funicle, enlarged.